

And they know that not because it is just not right; they know it because it doesn't result in the highest quality of opportunities and choices and dreams realized for individuals.

Remember, big government, small citizen. Big government, small patient. Big government, small consumer. You've got small government, you've got big patients, you've got big citizens, you've got big consumers, and more dreams realized.

Mr. AKIN. And that is really what you are saying, is basically you are losing your freedom; a little bit here, a little bit there. You are losing your freedom, and pretty soon you feel frustrated, you feel angry, because you have some common sense, and you know what it takes to make jobs, and we are doing all the wrong things.

But there are so many people on the street, and they are looking to you, they are looking to me, to try to help turn this thing around and get jobs going. And, of course, we don't have enough votes to turn these policies around.

Another one of these things that is really tough on jobs is insufficient liquidity. What that means is that a business needs to be able to borrow money. But the banking regulators are so tight now that a lot of businessmen can't get the loans they need to make their business go.

Of course, excessive government spending, we have been talking about that, and excessive government mandates and red tapes. Boy, talk about that. And this health care bill, of course, is leading the charge and damaged all these areas. And the end result is what? Well, unemployment. Not a big surprise, particularly, because we are doing everything wrong.

And yet here is an interesting question. Apparently what is happening is Wall Street seems to be doing a lot better. Is it because we have turned these bad policies around and are doing the right thing in D.C.? No. We are still doing everything wrong, and yet Wall Street seems to be doing better. Well, what is the logic of that?

Well, you know, to some degree it goes back to that same problem that got us into this housing bubble, and that is the crack cocaine of the government Federal system. That is, they can create unlimited liquidity.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. And unlimited amounts of money is what that means.

Mr. AKIN. Unlimited amounts of money and very low interest rates. So you have got lots of money with very low interest rates, and it comes down and starts to create these bubbles. So we really haven't fixed the job problem.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. You are absolutely right. I think that is so important because when people look to the items that need to be fixed from a financial standpoint, they look and they see that Washington has had its hand in some things that have been very destructive.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, for example, are really at the epicenter of the challenges that we have had in the economy. And the bill that is being proposed and the bill that came through the House earlier to assist in "fixing" things, their solution doesn't address Fannie and Freddie at all, which is so frustrating because the American people know that there are positive solutions. And you with the Republican Study Committee, we have been working diligently on putting forward those positive solutions to all of the challenges that we face that embrace those fundamental American principles.

So whether it is health care, whether it is energy, whether it is the economy, whether it is jobs, all of those things have fundamental principal solutions that don't require putting the government in charge.

Mr. AKIN. You are absolutely right, and it doesn't involve the government taking everything over.

We're going to take a break and yield because I believe there is some business that needs to be taken care of.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5019, HOME STAR ENERGY RETROFIT ACT OF 2010

Ms. MATSUI, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-475) on the resolution (H. Res. 1329) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5019) to provide for the establishment of the Home Star Retrofit Rebate Program, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

WHAT GOT US INTO THIS ECONOMIC MESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri may proceed.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, we are just taking apart a little bit some of what has been happening the last couple of years, why the economy has been struggling some, and why we are having a lot of unemployment and problems. Some people have a hard time understanding why it is that we are having a hard time. This little cartoon kind of comes along the same lines.

"Now, give me one reason why you are not hiring." And you have coming into the China shop a couple of bulls. You have the health care reform and the cap-and-tax and the war on business tax. That is basically businesses getting just hammered with taxes.

Of course, the picture here is we are not doing the right things that we need to be doing to keep the economy going and to create jobs. In fact, we are creating a perfect storm. People have said we have a war going on business, and we really do. We are doing everything wrong to try to create jobs and try to get the economy going.

So, on the one hand, we are making the statement here that families across

the country are tightening their belts and making tough decisions. The Federal Government has got to do the same. What is the Federal Government doing? Oh, we are doing the Wall Street bailout, we are doing the stimulus bill, we are doing the cap-and-tax bill, we are doing the socialized medicine bill. And now we are proposing institutionalizing bailouts, so that anytime anything goes wrong, the Federal Government takes your tax dollars and goes in and picks the winners and losers and bails companies out. That is exactly the wrong message.

I am joined by a good friend of mine from the wonderful State of Pennsylvania, and I would yield to him just a moment to share along the same line.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Well, I thank my good friend from Missouri for leading this very important Special Order where we are talking about jobs.

You know, I don't want to misquote, I believe it was President Reagan—I will give him credit at this point anyway—that made the statement that the best welfare program there is is a job.

Mr. AKIN. Get him a job, yes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Give him a job. And that is what we have not been doing.

Mr. AKIN. Do you think people want to be bailed out? Do you think people want their unemployment to be extended? Would they rather be sitting being unemployed, or would they rather have a good job with really good prospects and a bright future? I think people would rather have a strong economy.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. I think so, too. I talked with a constituent of mine from Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, today, and he was calling to talk about the unemployment because he has been without a job. And as we got talking, it was very clear that what he wanted was not so much the unemployment check, but he really wants a job. We got talking about the things that go into that and why we are not seeing the job growth. We are still bleeding to death in terms of our jobs in this country.

As I go around the district and I talk with job creators, the job creators are, I think as you know, our small business owners. The large majority of work is provided through small businesses.

Mr. AKIN. The gentleman is right. I think, if I recall, if you take 500 employees or less, that is 80 percent of the jobs in America. So 500 employees or less, which 500 is kind of more of a medium size, but 500 down, that is 80 percent of U.S. employment. So policies that affect those small businesses are a big deal in terms of jobs.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. They are. And I heard you use the word "uncertainty." I guess I kind of fall back on my health care background, and when it comes to jobs in this country, my diagnosis is we have a psychological problem. We have a total lack